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Economie Village, Ambridge, Pa.

National Trust for Historic Preservation

A bird, a fire engine, and a tailorshop on a street in Economie

Cover: The Great House of Economie, with view of the 1834 pavilion, and in the background the works of the American Bridge Company, Ambridge, Pa.

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CONTENTS

The American Dream Revisited 4-9
Decatur House Papers 10-11
National Trust Fellows 11
Spanish Gifts 11
News of Members 12-14
The Biggest Bite 14
Head House 15
Proposed Preservation 16-19
American History Grants 19
1959 Annual Meeting 19
A Column on Columns 20-22
Historic Sites—A Few Problems and Pitfalls 23-26
No More Haussmanns 26
Everybody's Church 27
Progress Report 28-29
Membership 29
Destruction 30-32
In Danger 32-33
Grants 34
Edifice Rex 34
Legislative Notes 34-36
Publications 37-39

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The American Dream Revisited

New Englanders had a name for them: "Come-outers."

They were that group of protestants against an established religious or social order who founded colonies where they could practice their theories of plain living and high thinking, separated from a world they found lacking in spiritual dedication or proper comprehension of the perfectability of man.

Whether they sought their objective by talking in unknown tongues; practicing celibacy; sharing their wealth as well as their mates; living on vegetables and eschewing alcohol, tea, coffee, and tobacco; seeking universal happiness through universal education; or seeking spirituality through catalepsy or growing long beards; they have left in almost every section of the nation vestiges of the cloisters and backwoods Utopias in which they lived, as mute testament to their vision of the American dream.

In a generation that is fast obliterating its past, a visit to some of these half-forgotten colonies is an unforgettable and moving experience. Some of these noble experiments are recorded on plaques, or in the pages of forgotten county histories, or survive, as one does, in a ramshackle auto repair building, still bearing traces of a once pretentious opera house. There are others that exist as entire villages, that may be revisited and rediscovered, as one might rediscover Economie, Pa., existing in an amazing capsule of time, surrounded by the most twentieth-century of industrial, bridge-building cities—Ambridge.

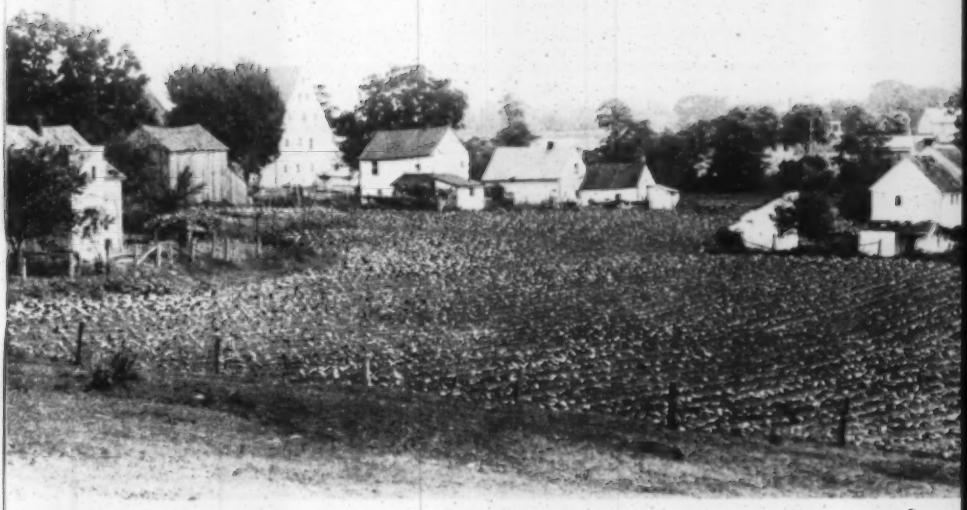
The colonies that practiced celibacy attracted few novices; and even though they flourished for a period, they left no successors to carry on their program. Others went through a phase of communitarian experimentation and sold out or re-divided their Utopias when dissension and worldliness overturned the precepts of their founders. In several states these villages have become wards of the state and live again as museum villages, and in other areas individuals and historical groups are assuming responsibility for their renaissance.

Within the immediate circle of the Trust's membership are some of these vestiges of America's salad days, when there was room enough, and spirit enough, to dedicate a lifetime to living the American dream — in whatever form it was envisioned.

Ephrata Cloisters

Something of the Middle Ages pervades the settlement of the Seventh-Day Baptists, Ephrata Cloister, founded in 1732 in Lancaster, Pa. On a tract of 27.5 acres, now administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, are the surviving buildings of this religious settlement, where its members devoted their lives to labor, meditation, worship, and charity. The architecture was an expression of the religious principles of the order—narrow hallways symbolized the straight and narrow path of virtue; low doorways emphasized the practice of humility; and lack of adornment stressed spiritual as opposed to material beauty. The Seventh-Day Baptists wore a plain habit and used narrow boards for beds with wooden blocks for pillows; their eating utensils were of wood, as well as their communion goblets.

The Saron (or nunnery) for the sisterhood is the oldest of the restored buildings, having been erected in 1740. The Bethania, or brotherhouse, was destroyed in recent years. The Saal or Chapel, the Almonry (a granary and bakery operated for charity), several small cottages for the householders who had not accepted the practice of celibacy, and the Academy built in 1837 to house the educational ventures of the community are among the restored structures that may be revisited.



One of the last photographs of Ephrata, taken in 1900 while the Seventh-Day Baptists still occupied the community. The large structure on the left is the Saal.

The industry of the order was extraordinary. They supplied not only their own meager necessities, but produced a number of staples and luxuries which could be sold to purchase additional items for their own community. Quilting, embroidery, canning, household remedies, sulphur matchsticks, wax tapers, paper lanterns, and artificial flowers were among the products they manufactured.

From 1745, their excellent printing press issued a steady stream of publications for the German sectarians of the province. Their *Fracturschiften* represented a superb revival of the medieval art of illumination.

Their life was one of rigid self-denial and austere plainness to oppose the world and the flesh. Yet during the French and Indian War they opened their buildings, including the chapel, as a refuge for the inhabitants of the Tulpehocken and Paxton settlements. Again, during the Revolutionary War, following the Battle of Brandywine, they took in the sick and wounded and converted the community into a hospital, which George Washington visited. When typhus broke out, 150 of the sick and wounded died and were buried at Mount Zion, along with many of the sisterhood who died in their service. All the buildings on the hill were burned to stop spread of the contagion. This great patriotic sacrifice left the once flourishing community a broken one, whose older members died, and which attracted few novices. In 1941 it passed into the hands of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which together with a friendly supporting organization, Ephrata Cloister Associates, retells the story of this dedicated community.

Zoar Village

Seeking refuge from religious persecution, a group of German separatists from Wurtemberg arrived in the city of brotherly love, Philadelphia, in 1817 and were befriended by the Quakers. With their assistance and advice, the separatists bought 5600 acres of good land on the Tuscarawas River in Ohio and planned

The design of the Flower Garden, Zoar, Ohio, follows the Biblical description of the New Jerusalem.

a religious community—Zoar. The village, named for the city where Lot sought refuge from the destruction of Sodom, was to be dedicated to a life of asceticism and the spiritual rebirth of its inhabitants. To help in the early struggling period, the women as well as the men were needed for constant work. The colonists agreed in 1822 to practice celibacy and to hold all property in common. By 1830 the settlement was a well-built village set in fruit orchards, the colony had prospered, the mortgage had been lifted, and the married members re-established their households. Although their clothing was plain and life was a disciplined routine of religious worship and hard work, their love of music and horticulture enhanced their daily life. By 1834 a magnificent garden (now restored) was created in the center of the village laid out like the New Jerusalem as revealed in the twenty-first chapter of Revelations. The evergreen tree in the center represented the Tree of Life. Twelve paths leading to it represent the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. Twelve other paths with cross paths also lead to the center. Around the Tree of Life is a path with twelve evergreens on the outer edge, depicting the Twelve Apostles of the Lamb. The Zoarites kept this garden landscaped, trimmed, and weedless.

The garden at first served for the benefit and enjoyment of the members of the society; and the greenhouse plants and seeds were for their individual gardens. Its fame soon spread and attracted many visitors. In a few short years the Zoarites had a flourishing business selling plants, seeds, and bulbs; in the winter many people sent rare and exotic plants to the Zoar greenhouse for storage and care.

By 1835 Zoar was virtually self-sustaining. They sold an agricultural surplus; clothing and shoes were made in their own shops on simple basic designs and with little choice of dark-colored materials. Then they expanded their home industries to include farm implements, tin and pottery household utensils, and fine stoves that were shipped to cities as far east as New York and Baltimore. The brewery produced a beer of such excellence and potency that it became legendary. In the mill was a fine pipe organ that made labor there pleasant; a brass band played for the field workers; there was choral singing and the young people had time for festivity at applebutter-making time, harvest, and hop pulling. In 1853 the Society of Separatists at Zoar attained their maximum development, the membership had increased to 500, and their assets were valued at $1 million.

Built as a community enterprise before 1830, the Zoar Hotel is still in operation.

The opening of the Ohio and Erie Canal, the coming of the railroad, and the influx of visitors (who stayed at the fine hotel where there was superb food, extraordinarily clean lodgings, music, picnics, boating, and in winter ice-skating and sleighing parties) brought a serpent into the placid Eden. There were newly employed Swabi immigrant hired hands working in the fields and being paid in money—$10 of it monthly. They swore, used tobacco, ate pork, and sang secular songs. The visitors wore fine silks and stylish bonnets and left behind them tips of money. During the Civil War, because of their pacifist beliefs, exemptions were purchased for the young men, but still 14 went off to the Union Army and 12 of them returned.

Following the War, the Zoarites' inability to adopt modern agricultural and industrial methods; the loss of their great founder and leader, Joseph Baumeler; and the gradual moving in of the world from which they had once separated themselves —all helped to bring about their dissolution in 1898. Yet they had managed to sustain an alien culture, a religious commune, for 75 years in the heart of America.

Today the Ohio State Museum maintains the Number One House (Joseph Baumeler's Home) as a museum of their way of life and for a display of their superb arts and crafts. The symbolic garden flourishes again, and other buildings of the Zoarites still remain to furnish a handsome background.

Harmony—New Harmony

Two—or perhaps with the present-day renaissance — three, experiments have taken place in this small Utopia on the banks of the Wabash. The present town bustles with highway activity and finds itself host to a group of migratory oilfield workers. Its historic flowering tree, *Koelreuteria Paniculata* (Golden Rain Tree), has been identified with a best-selling novel and a Hollywood success.

Here another group of German separatists, after a brief sojourn in Harmonie, Pa., where they settled in 1804, followed their leader, Father George Rapp, into Posey County, Ind., and on 30,000 acres of land established their village of New Harmony in 1818. Their pattern of religious dedication, celibacy, and a planned communitarian economy resembled that of other pietistic experiments. Two of their great buildings remain today, the Fort-Granary of brick and stone, and Number Two, the brothers' dormitory. Their magnificent church, in the form of a Maltese cross, lives only in the brick wall around the Rappite burying ground and in the handsome door to a modern school, on the pediment of which is carved a symbol of their belief in the millennium, a golden rose, and the mystic reference to the Lutheran Bible—"Unto thee shall come a golden rose, the first dominion."

Thirty-five of the Rappite houses built in this era are still in use, some as dwellings or modern commercial buildings, and

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The west door of a present-day school building in New Harmony was originally the north door of the Rappite brick church. The pediment was carved by Frederick, the adopted son of Father George Rapp.

The 1859 Dr. David Dale Owen Laboratory, New Harmony, Ind., was one-time headquarters of the National Geological Survey.

several as exhibition buildings. Ingeniously, these buildings were prefabricated and stored in a central repository. When a house was to be built a "bill of material" was requested, and parts were delivered to the proposed site. The framework was assembled while lying on the ground; final adjustments were made before its erection. Footings for the walls were large stones buried well below the frost line; footings for the heavy flues were separate from the walls, preventing differential settlement. A system of subfloor ventilation kept their cellars cool and timbers of the floors dry and free of rot. The most popular plan was a two-story, six-room house with an over-all dimension of 30 x 22 feet, built of either brick or wood, with identical interior plans to permit use of standardized parts. In both, an ingenious form of insulation was installed between the floors and in the attics. It is today known as a Dutch biscuit and was made of straw and mud, wrapped around a 1 x 4 inch board, 2 feet long, with ends tapered to fit into floor joists or ceiling rafters.

In 1824, Father Rapp elected to sell this flourishing community and return to Pennsylvania. Its purchaser, Robert Owen of New Lanark, an English cotton mill owner, educator, philanthropist, and social reformer, bought it as a site for his community of equality, where universal happiness was to be achieved through universal education. Instead of trying to reform an existing society, he planned to establish an ideal one. His son, Robert Dale Owen, led the experiment; his biography, *Threading My Way*, is a stirring narrative of social experimentation with a group of followers made up, as he says, of a "heterogeneous collection of radicals, enthusiastic devotees of principle, honest latitudinarians and lazy theorists, with a sprinkling of unprincipled sharpers thrown in." The town still bears evidence of their presence; and our government and our educational system, testimony to their vision. Owen introduced the bill which established the Smithsonian Institution for the popular dissemination of knowledge as well as for scientific investigation. The Owen Laboratory, still standing and owned by his descendant, became a center of science, education, and cultural pursuits of the expanding West.

Today the state of Indiana has restored and opened several of the buildings; the National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of Indiana has restored and opened an early Rappite House; and the Robert Lee Blaffer Trust has not only restored

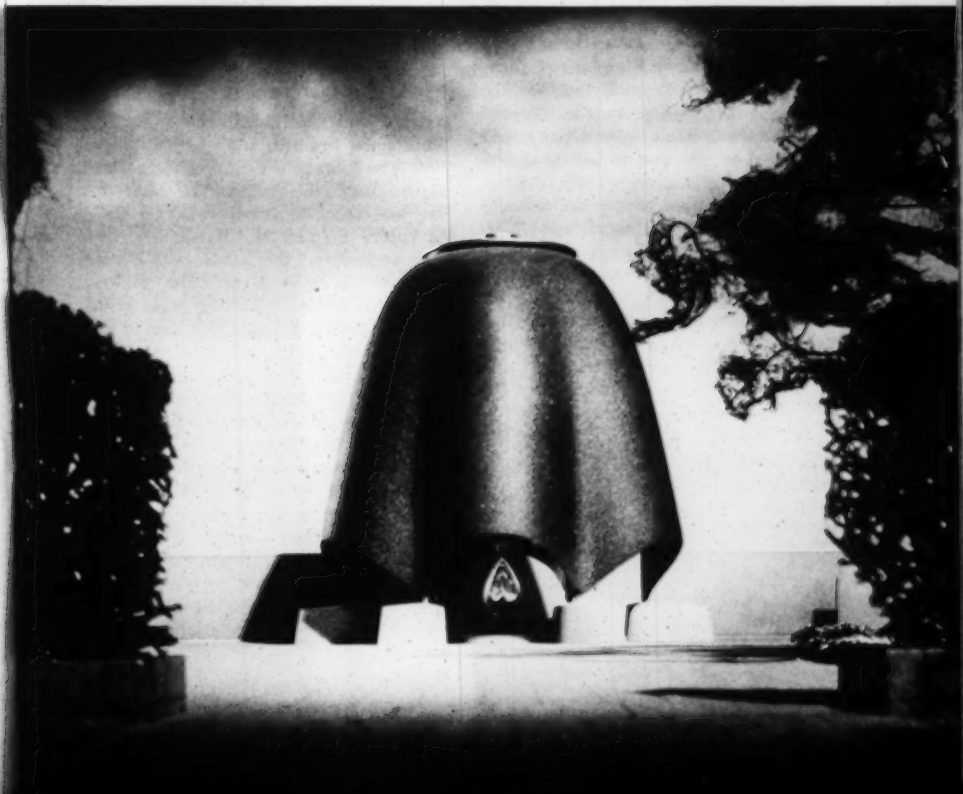
and adapted to current use a number of Rappite dwellings, but has erected a Community House. On May 1, a modern interdenominational chapel, which incorporates a sculptured Madonna by Jacques Lipchitz, was consecrated. The chapel is to be available for weddings, religious plays, and music festivals, with the cooperation of the music department of Indiana University and Evansville College.

The real flowering of the Harmonist experiment took place after their return to their third and last home, Economy, Pa., in 1828. Today encircled by the modern industrial city of Ambridge, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Division is restoring 17 buildings in a two-block area. They include Rapp's Great House, the Feast Hall, the symbolic Grotto in the garden, a number of shops, and small dwellings. The early church is still used by a present-day congregation.

Here for three seasons a talented group of amateurs has presented a dramatic historical pageant, *Man's Reach*, which won them the first national drama award to be presented by the American Association for State and Local History. It portrays how the Harmonists, with their eyes fixed on Heaven in expectation of the millennium, still fashioned a Utopia on earth.

—H. D. B.

Jacques Lipchitz's sculptured "Descent of the Holy Spirit" is the central feature of the open chapel, dedicated on May Day in New Harmony, Ind. The photograph is from a model of the chapel by the architect, Philip C. Johnson, A.I.A.



DECATUR HOUSE PAPERS

Dr. L. Quincy Mumford, Librarian of Congress, officially accepted title to the Truxtun-Beale Papers from Richard H. Howland, president of the National Trust, in a special ceremony held in March in Decatur House on Lafayette Square, Washington, D. C. This collection of letters, official documents, journals, and other historic materials was a bequest of the late Mrs. Truxtun Beale, who willed the famous House and its contents to the Trust in 1956 to maintain for public benefit.

In depositing the collected papers at Library of Congress, Mr. Howland stated it was a policy of the National Trust not to attempt to retain historical documents that had value for scholarly research, where there were no research facilities available.

This collection included not only the accumulated papers of the Beale and related families, but valuable documents on early U. S. naval history collected by the family especially on the exploits of Commodores Thomas Truxtun and Stephen Decatur in the Barbary Wars and War of 1812. Decatur's house was partially built with prize money won in action against the Barbary pirates.

The first member of the Beale family to own Decatur House was Edward Fitzgerald Beale who began his career as a naval lieutenant, became a general in the Army, and later served with distinction in the diplomatic corps. Diaries, journals, and letters reflect his career in the winning of the West; his transcontinental dash with the famous scout, Kit Carson, to bring news of the discovery of gold in California; his service under Secretary of War Jefferson Davis in convoying a camel caravan from Texas to California in 1857; and his Civil War service which began his friendship with General U. S. Grant and continued after Grant's presidency.

Letters of President and Mrs. Grant, Henry Clay, Matthew F. Maury, Bayard Taylor, James Buchanan, Thomas Hart Benton and his daughter and son-in-law John C. Fremont, General John Sherman, Alexander Chase, and Philander Chase are included with other correspondence of General Edward Beale and his son, Truxtun.

In accepting the collection for the Library of Congress, Dr. Mumford said it represented worthwhile additions to other extensive holdings, in the Manuscripts Division, of related material on the early history of the U. S. Navy, and of the personal and official papers of leading Washington residents from 1818 through 1956. The Library is restoring the papers and making them available for research. One biographer is already working with the letters of Julia Dent Grant.

In addition to the heads of the two organizations, there were other professional staff members and the press present. Mrs. Loring Christie, chairman of the Decatur House Committee, received the group who later made a tour of the House. Mr. Howland pointed out that the history of the House and its noted inhabitants is vividly presented, not through written documents but through such objects as the famous Narjot paintings of the camel brigade; the silver trophy presented by Lloyd's Coffee House to Captain Thomas Truxtun in 1799 after his victory over the French frigate *Insurgente;* and memorabilia of the distinguished members of the diplomatic corps who occupied the

Librarian of Congress L. Quincy Mumford (right) receives the deed to the Truxtun-Beale papers from Richard H. Howland at a ceremony in Decatur House on April 9.

House after Decatur was killed in the duel with Commodore Barron in 1820. Among the souvenirs of the foreign residents are water colors by the wife of the French Minister, Baron Hyde de Neuville.

Decatur House is regularly open to the public Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

NATIONAL TRUST FELLOWS

Twelve graduate students in American universities have been named the first recipients of National Trust Fellowships of $500 each to attend the six-week Seminar for Historical Administrators this summer in Williamsburg, Va. Those chosen are: Carl Franklin Cannon, Jr. and Norman Conrad Delaney of Duke University; Robert Louis Damm, Ohio State University; David Lee Drury, Michigan State University; J. Wilson Ferguson, Princeton University; Dudley Arnold Lewis, University of Wisconsin; Mrs. Helen O'Boyle Park, Harvard University; Douglas Robert Picht, University of Minnesota; Joseph Bruce Sinclair, University of Delaware; Herbert Franklin Smith, Rutgers University; and John Bacon Willenbecher and John Joseph McKendry, New York University.

All grantees completed their undergraduate studies in the United States, except Mr. McKendry who is a graduate of the University of Alberta, Canada.

Six auditors are being permitted to attend the Seminar at their own expense.

Co-sponsored by the National Trust and Colonial Williamsburg, the program is designed to bring the field of historical administration to the attention of qualified graduate students.

Instruction for the grantees will be provided by a faculty of 25 guest lecturers from historic house museums, restoration projects, and historical societies in various parts of the United States. Staff members of Colonial Williamsburg and the National Trust will also serve on the faculty. Classes will be held daily in the morning. Afternoons will be devoted to laboratory training periods and field trips to museums and restoration projects in the area. Students will be given problems from the files of the National Trust and will be asked to present their solutions in a series of afternoon critiques during the last week of classes. The Seminar will terminate with a written examination.

William J. Murtagh, assistant to the president of the National Trust, is coordinator of the Seminar.

SPANISH GIFTS

The Ambassador of Spain, Don Jose Maria de Areilaz, Count of Motrico, recently presented a permanent exhibit to the Cabildo Museum in New Orleans, commemorating the 40 years of Spanish rule in Louisiana. The new exhibit is located on the ground floor of the Cabildo in two rooms decorated by the Spanish government. One room features a mural and Louisiana motifs, enlargements of plans, fortifications, and maps of the Spanish regime in Louisiana relating to New Orleans. Included are plans of New Orleans bearing the original names of streets and parks as shown on eighteenth-century Spanish maps. The second room features furniture of the period of Charles III, with a portrait of the King and his Queen, Maria Amalia of Saxony.

In October the Spanish Minister of the Army, Lt. Gen. Antonio Barroso Sanchez-Guerra, presented Under Secretary of the Interior Elmer F. Bennett a rare set of seven antique Spanish military weapons from the Spanish government.

The arms, which are being shipped from the Museum of the Spanish Army in Madrid, will be used by the National Park Service as exhibits at Castillo de San Marcos National Monument in St. Augustine, Fla., to help interpret for the American people the story of the Spanish garrisons that were stationed at the famous old Spanish fort for periods covering 250 years.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

The financial position of Historic Georgetown, Inc., formed as a business venture in 1951 to save three handsome Federal style buildings in the Nation's Capital from destruction, improved greatly during 1958. A net profit was shown of $3,808.09 before depreciation. Allowing $3,654.72 for depreciation, a final net profit was made of $153.37. This contrasts with a net loss (after depreciation) of $1,254.16 for 1957. The shops at 30th and M Streets are rented to France's Restaurant, Nash Fabrics, Old Georgetown Flower Shop, and Patience Gibson Needlepoint. Arrangements are being made to finance the restoration of the unrented and unrestored third-floor apartment. A note of optimism also comes from the continuing improvement of M Street in the vicinity of the property, e.g., street paving, restoration of Old Stone House, tree planting, and general improvement in the shops of the neighborhood. The National Trust is the largest stockholder of this venture, having received as gifts 12,440 shares of the common stock and 455 shares of the preferred stock of Historic Georgetown, Inc.

Gadsden House was given to Historic Charleston Foundation, S. C., by Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Woodward with a fund with which to restore the house. No changes will be made to the exterior, but the interior will be adapted to the needs of future tenants. The three-story brick house was built about 1800 by Philip Gadsden. The Woodwards and the Foundation hope that the gift will inspire other reclamations in the same block where there are several other houses of the same period. Only a few years ago twice as many remained. This area of the city was developed by wealthy planters about the beginning of the last century. Many were built by the river as summer houses.

City and state funds are being sought in order to maintain Old Slater Mill, Pawtucket, R. I., as a museum. Mayor Lawrence A. McCarthy favors an annual $5,000 appropriation by the city to be matched by $5,000 in state funds. The mill, as a museum, has not been self-supporting, and there is no guarantee that those whose private funds have underwritten the museum will continue their contribution.

The Judge Charles Fernald Mansion in Santa Barbara, Calif., will be moved, according to a report from W. Edwin Gledhill, director of the Museum of the Santa Barbara Historical Society. The house, which was constructed in the early years of California statehood, is the outstanding pioneer dwelling of its era remaining in Santa Barbara. The building was offered as a gift to the Society, together with the entire responsibility of having it removed. To move the 100-year-old structure, place it on a new foundation on the Society's property on Castillo Street, to weatherproof it and connect utilities, $12,000 is needed. When restored, the building will provide ample space as headquarters for Society-sponsored committees and related organizations.

Audrian County Historical Society, Mexico, Mo., is restoring and redecorating Ross House. It was owned by Judge John P. Clark during the Civil War, and General U. S. Grant was a frequent guest in the house while he and his troops were stationed in Mexico in 1861. Seven rooms and two hallways will be used for exhibition purposes; one large room will be set aside as a meeting room for town and county women's clubs. According to Charles van Ravenswaay, director of the Missouri Historical Society and consultant on the restoration of the Ross House, "the structure is of the late classical revival style of ancient Greece, built at the beginning of the Italianate phase of American architecture. Its roof line and cornices carry out the Italian style. One nice thing is that the house is planned to serve so many community purposes, and another thing is its lovely setting in the park."

The Heritage Foundation of Rhode Island recently received its first property to preserve for posterity, 450 acres of vacant land in the center of Prudence Island. The Foundation officers thanked the donors, Norman Herreshoff and Westcote Herreshoff Chesbrough, descendants of early owners of the property, and voiced assurances that the land will be preserved for the future. Although there are no definite plans for the land, suggestions have been made for its use by the Audubon Society of Rhode Island or the Boy Scouts. The 450 acres formed the major portion of land considered and later rejected in 1952 by the U. S. Department of Agriculture as the site of a $24,500,000 laboratory for research on foot and mouth disease. Prudence Island was originally called Chebatowesett by the Indians and was given to John Oldham, an English trader, by Indian Chief Canonicus in 1634 on condition that Oldham live there. He later was murdered by Indians. Roger Williams and Governor John Winthrop of Massachusetts bought the Island in 1637. Williams sold his part in 1643 when he returned to England to obtain parliamentary recognition of his colony.

The North Carolina Society for the Preservation of Antiquities has appointed a Minuteman Committee, charged with locating old and historic structures and aiding in their preservation. The Committee works with Society members, local groups and individuals, and with the State Department of Archives and History in promoting interest in the project and in raising needed funds.

Five medals and three citations were awarded by the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society to persons who helped to restore or maintain parks and other places of interest. Conrad L. Wirth, director of the National Park Service, received the Horace M. Albright Scenic Preservation Medal for 30 years of service in parks. Mrs. Katherine Prentis Murphy of New York received the George McAneny Historic Preservation medal for her part in restoring such historic landmarks as St. Luke's Church near Smithfield, Va., and White Horse Tavern in Newport, R. I. Cornelius Amory Pugsley medals were awarded to Eivind T. Scoyen, associate director of the National Park Service; Thomas W. Morse, superintendent of North Carolina State Parks; and posthumously to Walter L. Wirth, former superintendent of Oregon parks. Citations of achievement were given Mrs. Martha Gilmore Robinson, of New Orleans; Hon. W. Parsons Todd, former mayor of Morristown, N. J.; and the late Henry Mason Day of Smithfield, Va.

Miss Harlean James retired at the close of 1958 as Executive Secretary of the American Planning and Civic Association. She had served the organization in this capacity, and its predecessor the American Civic Association, since 1921, carrying forward a program to advance public interest and appreciation of the purposes of the Association. She is known nationally as one of the outstanding authorities in the fields of planning and conservation.

March *Museum News*, the publication of the American Association of Museums, is the first issue in its redesigned 24-page format. Edward P. Alexander, the Association's president, in writing to the membership on the organization's new program, states that through the *Museum News*, publications, and publicity services, the public will be acquainted with the accomplishments of museums and their value to the community. The new program also includes the establishment of a documentation center, a nationwide retirement and insurance program for museum employees, an expanded employment service, and the study of a museum training program. Accompanying Mr. Alexander's letter was a reprint of Mary V. R. Thayer's Washington *Post* column, "Tell-a-Scope," entitled "Mushrooming Museums are under His Microscope," a profile of the Association's new director, Joseph A. Patterson.

With the closing of 1958, the Mount Vernon Ladies Association entered its second century of guardianship over the first

President's estate. The Association is functioning under the charter granted them by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1858. For the seventh successive year, attendance passed the million mark. There were 663,146 regular adult admissions, 150,564 high school students at the half-fee rate, and 259,482 free admissions. Free visitors comprised nearly 25 per cent of the grand total for the year. They included children, school chaperons, members of the armed services, and the Washington's Birthday observance. During the year measured drawings of the dependencies were finished, making the record of all buildings in the exhibition area complete.

Newton B. Drury, trustee of the National Trust, will retire as head of the California state park system on April 30, 1959. The director of the State Department of Natural Resources, Dewitt Nelson, said, "Californians owe a debt of gratitude to Newton Drury for his preservation of the natural scene in the mountains, desert, and coastal areas of the state." The impetus of the present park system in California grew out of the Save The Redwoods League, an organization which Mr. Drury helped to found in 1918. He served as the Executive Secretary of the League during the time it raised more than $4 million to save 64,000 acres of ancient forest. Mr. Drury helped draft the legislation that established the division of parks in 1928 and whose active work helped insure the passage of a $6 million bond issue for park land acquisition. From 1940-1951 he was director of the National Park Service. He was then asked by Governor Earl Warren to return to California as director of the Division of Beaches and Parks. He continued his earlier work of building the California state park system which now comprises 145 units covering nearly 600,000 acres with 40 million visitors annually. A five-year master plan was started in 1956 that will add 123 acres to existing parks and cost nearly $100 million.

The restored Tryon Palace, New Bern, N. C., was officially opened in April. There will be an article on Tryon Palace in the next issue of HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

THE BIGGEST BITE

Food, according to the analysis printed in the February *Virginia Travel Counselor*, takes the biggest bite from the travel dollar; transportation is second and lodging a close third. For the information of those whose historic museums or communities depend upon the tourist, the National Trust is reprinting the table:

	NATO*	AAA	VNB	UT	CPC	UC	AV
Food	27¢	28¢	31¢	34¢	29¢	28¢	29¢
Lodging	21¢	22¢	22¢	20¢	20¢	23¢	21½¢
Transportation	22¢	22¢	29½¢	27¢	21¢	22¢	23½¢
Retail Purchases	14¢	20¢	7½¢	..	18¢	..	14¢
Entertainment	11¢	8¢	5¢	10¢	11¢	..	8¢
Services	5¢	..	5¢	..	..	..	4¢
Unspecified	..	..	..	9¢	1¢	27¢	..
	$1.00	$1.00	$1.00	$1.00	$1.00	$1.00	$1.00

* The abbreviations: NATO (National Association of Travel Organizations); AAA (American Automobile Association); VHB (Valley National Bank, Phoenix, Arizona); UT (University of Tennessee); CPC (Curtis Publishing Company); UC (University of Colorado); AV (Average).

Head House

Restoration of Head House, Second and Pine Streets in Philadelphia, marks the first major step in the $55 million redevelopment of the oldest part of the city. The City Council appropriated $40,000 for restoration of the two-story late colonial brick structure with a cupola bell tower. A pair of small, open market sheds were built about the middle of the eighteenth century in the center of Second Street, flanking Lombard, for the convenience of the householders on Society Hill. These grew in length, adding standard units, and by 1811 had increased to about 400 feet. The Head House was added at the Pine Street end in 1803 to accommodate volunteer firemen and two engines of the Fellowship and Hope Hose Companies. A similar firehouse, occupied by the Southwark Hose Company, originally stood at the South Street end of the market.

The firehouse has been generally in disuse since 1840 when it was abandoned as a firehouse. According to G. Edwin Brumbaugh, A.I.A., architect of the restoration, the structure has not been touched for 25 years. Part of the building will be used as the headquarters for the Redevelopment Authority for the Washington Square project; another portion will be set aside for a museum.

* * *

In *Poets in a Landscape*, Gilbert Highet writes of a certain Memmius who apparently didn't appreciate the finer things. "He bought the little house and garden in Athens where the master Epicurus used to teach and then planned to destroy them in order to put up a new building. Cicero (who had little sympathy for Epicureans but much for history) had to write and ask him not to commit such an act of vandalism."

PROPOSED PRESERVATION

DeBary, Fla. The Florida Federation of Arts voted to accept the Count Frederick DeBary Mansion, assuring preservation of the 90-year-old landmark in southwest Volusia County. The DeBary Mansion had been offered by its owners, the developers of Plantation Estates, to residents of DeBary, but two groups who considered accepting the building and grounds decided the cost of maintenance would be too great. The Mansion is one of the oldest structures in Volusia County and was the center of social life in the Lake Monroe region in the era when the steamboat on the St. Johns River was the main means of transportation.

Fort Worth, Tex. Old Tompkins' Cabin rolled into the new pioneer cabin section of Forest Park on a flatbed truck. Built in 1858 by John Baptist Tompkins, the Cabin was brought in by the Fort Worth Jaycees as part of a pioneer cabin restoration project. Eventually, a number of century-old cabins will be restored on the 10-acre site at the intersection of University Drive and Colonial Parkway. The one-room structure was built of live oak logs, miter-dovetailed, and served as a dwelling until 1931 when farm workers inhabiting it finally abandoned it. It was on the farm of Wyatt C. Hedrick, who donated it to Fort Worth's Pioneer Texas Heritage Committee.

Portland, Ore. Announcement that the light on Tillamook Rock is to be relit brought a quick commendation from former Gov. Robert Holmes for the nonprofit organization which plans to renovate the abandoned lighthouse as a historical monument. Governor Holmes said preservation of the historic light is important because of tradition, and it also should be a boon to fishing, commercial, and pleasure boats. The Tillamook Rock beacon first flashed its light off the Clatsop beach in 1881. It was turned off by the lighthouse service more than a year ago. The Save the Tillamook Light Association plans to solicit funds to acquire and recondition the lighthouse and to turn the facility, plus necessary operating funds, over to the state park system. The Association wants to have the light beaming from the lonely coastal pinnacle sometime early in 1959, Oregon's centennial year.

Medora, N. D. Kenneth Dunshee, a New York advertising man, believes that Medora is that unique town in which there will be progress if progress is stopped, according to the Bismarck *Tribune*. He believes that Medora symbolizes the Old West, more than any existing town, partly because it hasn't changed a great deal over the years and party because so many of the really great characters of frontier cattlemen's day operated there. "Don't let them put up modern store fronts and pave the streets and put in cement sidewalks," writes Dunshee; "rather, restore the old Rough Riders Hotel to its 1880 appearance, tear off the new woodwork that covers the bullet holes and creases left by the wild-shooting cowboys, and rebuild the livery stable and corrals of Pierre Wibaux's day. In short, make Medora a 'living museum' untainted by outward evidences of commercialism, a place where any visitor can see a cowtown as real as any of the '80's. Why not a real, sure-as-shootin' cowtown? And where better than at Medora? Put back the hitchin' post. Tie a sleepy-eyed sorrel hoss to it. Set a cowboy on a tipped-back chair on the porch, his hat pulled down over his eyes in the hot sun. And put up a big sign: *Medora, Where the Old West Still Lives.*"

Natchez, Miss. The Natchez Historical Society has appealed for preservation of Memorial Hall which it describes as the "center of cultural and social life of Natchez." From 1852, all events which brought together any large number of Natchez citizens were held in the Hall. "Speeches of the troubled ante-bellum period were heard within the walls of the building, and when the final break came and war was the only answer to the problems, the townsmen enlisted there. During

Reconstruction days Memorial Hall was used for discussions on the restoration of Southern civilization to the town and state. . . . It has been a vital part of our Natchez past and is still at work, creating that 'atmosphere' for which visitors crowd the town each March."

Trenton, N. J. The New Jersey Conservation Department is seeking $30,000 to restore Clark House in Princeton as a state museum. The House, which dates back to colonial times, was used by Washington's troops to shelter officers wounded in the Battle of Princeton. It was turned over to the state by descendants of the Clark family and is now rented to a private individual who acts as caretaker. The Conservation Department said the Princeton Historical Society has long urged use of the building as a museum. The Society would contribute to the support of the project, if allowed to use a room for its meetings.

Yucaipa, Calif. The two-story Sepulveda-Dunla, Yucaipa Adobe, over which three state flags have flown, has been given to the state of California as a memorial to pioneer settlers. The one-acre plot on which the Adobe stands is the last remaining fragment of the original 35,000-acre land grant issued by Juan B. Alvardo, governor of California in 1842, by authority of the Mexican government. Diego Sepulveda built the structure in 1842 after his uncle divided the land among his three sons and his nephew. By 1954 only three acres remained of the original grant, and the Adobe had deteriorated to such an extent that it was condemned by San Bernardino County officials. A drive to save the house was lead by Yucaipa residents, the county museum, and county historical association.

Oologah, Okla. The United States government has acquired Will Rogers' birthplace near Oologah from the famous humorist's heirs as part of the Oologah dam project. Purchase was made from Will Rogers, Jr., Jim Rogers, and Mrs. Mary Rogers Brook. They retained the two-story frame house in which Will was born, other ranch structures, and still have about 425 acres which will not be flooded by the dam. They have until June 30, 1959, to move the buildings to land nearby and will eventually restore the farmstead portion of the old Rogers ranch as it was originally.

* * *

The old Customs House, Mobile, Ala., was designed by Robert Mills and built in 1852. Historic Mobile Preservation Society fears it may be sold and subsequently destroyed, if clear title to the building is acquired by the City Commissioners of Mobile. The Mobile Preservation Society and interested citizens worked for the preservation of the building from 1935-39. It was finally purchased in 1940 by the city for one-half the appraised value, according to an act of Congress governing disposal of surplus property for public use or benefit. It has since been used by the Mobile Chamber of Commerce, various civic groups, and the University of Alabama Center. Congressman Frank Boykin (D-Ala.) recently introduced legislation to give the city of Mobile clear title to the old Customs Building.

Sandwich, Mass. One hundred thousand dollars is being asked through loan and town funds for restoring Hoxie House and Old Mill. Only money for the Hoxie House, believed the oldest on Cape Cod, will be requested this year.

Stamford, Conn. It has been said that "when a man falls in love with a sailing ship, he travels perilous waters." Edmund Francis Moran, however, has lost his heart to an old Gloucester fishing schooner, the *L. A. Dunton*, which has outlived her era. Moran is leading a campaign to purchase and restore her to original rig and present her to the maritime museum at Mystic (Conn.) Seaport, a National Trust member organization. He thinks $100,000 will be needed for purchase and upkeep. The *Dunton* is thought to be the last surviving Gloucester-built, engineless fishing schooner. Later her topmasts were removed, she became "baldheaded," and an engine was installed.

Asbury Park, N. J. The Ocean County Historical Society is "unalterably opposed" to razing the Mansion House in Ocean County Park, Lakewood. The Ocean County Board of Freeholders recently announced that bids would be received shortly for the demolition of a former residence of John D. Rockefeller, Sr. The House, which has been called a fire hazard by the Freeholders, was built about 80 years ago as a golf house for visitors who frequented Lakewood in the winter. Mr. Rockefeller purchased the 40-room structure and 500 acres of surrounding pineland in the 1890's. It was used by him as a retreat for several weeks in the spring and fall until his death in 1937. The estate was given to the county for park purposes by the Rockefeller family.

Winston-Salem, N. C. The Old Salem coffee pot, South Main Street's century-old landmark, sat atop a wooden grill as workmen prepared to move it away in the name of progress. Owners of the tin pot said it wouldn't be moved far; some day, it will be brought back as near as possible to its original position. The coffee pot is directly in the path of the Interstate Expressway. Erected in 1859 as advertising display for the tin shop of Julius Mickey, the pot is more than seven feet tall and has a diameter of 64 inches at the bottom. Someone calculated it would hold 740.5 gallons of coffee. The pot has been the center of many legends through the years. The most popular is that a Yankee soldier hid inside it during the Civil War. Another legend has it that its large size was necessary because it was used as a coffee dispenser for the crowds who came to the city to attend Moravian love feasts. In the 1920's a rambling Ford hit it hard enough to send it crashing to the ground —only a few feet from a woman and her child. Later, town authorities ordered it removed, calling it a hazard to safety. But public sentiment prevailed, and it was given a more stable support instead.

Westchester, Ind. An association is being formed to purchase the Bailly Homestead, built by the first white settler in the Calumet region, and to maintain it as a historical landmark. An estimated $100,000 is needed to purchase and restore the Homestead. Joseph Bailly, who had been a successful fur trader, started the main house in 1834 and planned to live out his years in comfort; he died, however, a year later, before the house was completed. The settlement, which included storehouses, servants' quarters, trading post, chapel, and watchtower, was completed by his daughter and granddaughter.

Elizabeth, N. J. Belcher Mansion, built in the early 1700's, was recently purchased, terms of the sale being that it will be turned over to a foundation for "posterity." The new owner plans to store a collection of historical objects in the house which will be opened to the public. It was bought from Mrs. Warren R. Dix, who had purchased the house when it was occupied as a tenement in 1899, and restored it with her husband. The exact date of construction is not known, but there are historical references to its having existed at least as early as 1722. The house was occupied by Jonathan Belcher, a royal governor in the 1750's, and by another governor, Aaron

Ogden, who moved into it in 1812. While Belcher lived in the house, he entertained famous personalities of his day, including Jonathan Edwards who later became president of Princeton University, and George Whitefield, the English evangelist. One of the largest social events in New Jersey during the Revolutionary War took place within the Mansion when "Caty" Smith, daughter of the patriot, William Peartree Smith, married Elisha Boudinot, brother of Elias, then president of the Continental Congress. George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette were guests and Alexander Hamilton was master of ceremonies.

AMERICAN HISTORY GRANTS

A program of graduate study and apprenticeship in American history, designed to encourage participating students to make use of the research facilities available in the Jamestown-Williamsburg-Yorktown "historic triangle" will begin this summer at the College of William and Mary. Arranged by the College with the cooperation of Colonial Williamsburg, the Institute of Early American History and Culture, and the National Historical Park at Yorktown, the 14-month program will combine academic work for the Master's degree with practical professional experience in one of three areas: editing of historical books and pamphlets, operation of a historical library, or interpretation of historical sites.

Three assistantships of $2,000 and two fellowships of $1,500 will be offered annually to participating students. The funds will be provided by William and Mary College, which plans to furnish $7,000 during the coming academic year, and by Colonial Williamsburg, which has pledged $5,000, one-half of which is to be used during the 1959-60 college year and one-half during the 1960-61 sessions.

ST. ALOYSIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH in northwest Washington, D. C., an area of slum clearance and urban renewal, is preparing to celebrate its centennial anniversary and has undertaken to raise $50,000 for restoration work. At the time of its dedication the New York *Times* said the structure "in internal architectural beauty is not to be surpassed by any church in the world." Constantino Brumidi, painter of the fresco under the Capitol dome, executed the altar piece, "St. Charles Borromeo giving First Holy Communion to St. Aloysius Gonzaga." The architect was Benedit Sestini, professor of National Philosophy at Georgetown College. An interested viewer of construction progress was President James Buchanan.

1959 ANNUAL MEETING

October 9 through 11 have been chosen as the dates for the 1959 annual meeting. The meeting will be held in Washington, D. C., with headquarters in the Mayflower Hotel. Registration blanks and programs will be mailed to all members and member organizations immediately after Labor Day.

A Column on Columns

Two dozen 140-year-old, 10-ton sandstone columns have been lying on their sides for several months in front of the U. S. Capitol from which they were removed. Public interest in their future resulted in the creation of a committee composed of representatives of the Washington Metropolitan Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the American Society of Landscape Architects, and the American Institute of Planners to discover how the columns can be preserved. Letters to the Editor of the Washington *Post* brought a suggestion that each of the original 13 states be given one of the columns and leave the rest as a landmark in the District of Columbia; someone else wanted them to flank the Reflecting Pool between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial; protestants now fully engaged in the second battle of Gettysburg declared that the erection of the columns there might emphasize the importance of this historic national monument and help to combat the growing commercialism around the Civil War battleground.

John Harbeson, A.I.A., of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson, one of the three architectural firms advising the Architect of the Capitol on the East Front Extension, has recommended to the Architect of the Capitol "that a corner of the portico — three complete columns, with bases and capitals and the complete cornice of that portion, carefully scraped of the many layers of paint—should be set up in a national museum, together with the original stones of the tympanum carving, the overdoor carving (with the bust of Washington) and of the guilloche band and other ornamental details. One of the capitals has been scraped of its paint to serve as a model for carving the marble. The carving of the sandstone was beautiful

Columns from the U. S. Capitol are stored on t
Congress. The Capitol dome is se

e stored on the plaza in front of the Library of
ol dome is seen in the background.

in its undercutting, in the fineness of the edges of its arrisses—all of these qualities lost in the rounding of the surfaces by the heavy coatings of paint."

Also in search of a home are four Ionic columns designed by Thomas U. Walter in 1836 for the Philadelphia residence of Matthew Newkirk, a railroad pioneer. When the Greek revival structure, later known as St. George's Hall, was torn down, the portico was moved to Princeton to adorn *Mercer Manor*. This in turn was torn down in 1957 for new buildings of the Institute of Advanced Study. A fund to raise $20,000 is being sponsored by the New Jersey Chapter of the American Institute of Architects to move the portico 100 yards to the nearby Princeton Battlefield Memorial Park. Here it would serve as an entrance to the grove where unknown soldiers of the Revolution are buried, a common grave of Hessian and Continental soldiers. A bronze commemorative plaque would be placed in their memory within the portico, which would also honor Mr. Walter, second president of the American Institute of Architects and architect of the present dome of the U. S. Capitol and its two wings. If permission to erect the portico in the Park is refused, the architects report that one of the great architectural monuments by one of the nation's most noted early architects will be reduced to rubble. The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the city of Philadelphia have expressed interest in its acquisition, but transportation costs would probably make a solution outside of Princeton prohibitive. When first moved to Princeton from Philadelphia, the great façade was transported in sections on the Delaware and Raritan Canal, and then by sled to *Mercer Manor*.

Washington *Post* reporter Jean White recently featured on a picture-page other columns from destroyed buildings which have been saved and successfully incorporated into new settings. The famous columns on the University of Missouri campus are all that remain of the old 1840

Ruined 18th-century Corinthian colonnade around an oval pool in the Parc Monceau, one-time favorite resort for the fashionable society of Paris and now a public park. The colonnade is believed to have come from a rotunda begun by Catherine de Medici to contain the mausoleums of Henry II and herself. Near the pool is a Renaissance arcade from an old town hall, and a memorial to Guy de Maupassant.

Administration Building, destroyed by fire in 1892. For some time, the columns —badly scarred in the fire—were regarded only as ruins and there were proposals to demolish them. They were finally left standing and over the years many campus traditions have centered around them. Members of the graduating class gather around the columns and march by them on their way to commencement.

Six tall granite columns, once part of the old Philadelphia Mint, now form the entrance to the Albert Einstein Medical Center's Northern Division in Philadelphia. The old Mint was demolished in 1902, and the columns were given to the then old Jewish Hospital, now part of the Einstein Medical Center. A seventh column has been sunk in the ground and carries a large cast-iron urn for flowers.

Columns from the portico of the old War Department office, built in 1818, were salvaged when the building was razed in the late 1870's. They now grace the gateways to the Arlington National Cemetery. Four of the stone columns, surmounted by a stone entablature, form the Sheridan gate off Arlington Ridge Road.

When the Bank of Pittsburgh was demolished to make way for a parking garage nearly 20 years ago, architect Edward F. Griffith rescued its 30-foot classical columns and patiently preserved them from destruction for two decades. At one time Griffith paid $1000 a year "rental" on the space they occupied. After several unsuccessful attempts to use the columns, the owner of a garden mausoleum joined with Griffith to erect them. They will be incorporated in a circular crypt around a bronze, life-size statue of Thomas Jefferson and will become the Jefferson Memorial Park Mausoleum.

On the campus of the University of Washington in Seattle, 24-foot-high pillars make an effective backdrop for an open-air sylvan theater used for pageants and festivals. A local cabinetmaker hand carved the four columns from cedar in 1861 to support the entrance to the University's first building. When the University was moved to its present location, the original building was razed; the pillars were in storage for years until they were placed on concrete bases on the new campus in this open area surrounded by trees.

Westminster College, Fulton, Mo., retained a set of columns, the remains of the first administration building which burned in 1909 (erected in 1853). It is a tradition at Westminster for each entering freshman class to pass between these columns on their first day at the College. Never again does a student pass between the columns until his commencement, when the senior class marches through them on their way to the graduation exercises. The capitals of the columns, of Corinthian design, are made of cast iron. The lower portion is brick, covered with cement. They were renovated in 1927, and again in 1954. Westminster is a Protestant liberal arts college for men. It was on this campus that Sir Winston Churchill delivered his "Iron Curtain Address" in March of 1946. —T. B. M.

HISTORIC SITES—A FEW PROBLEMS AND PITFALLS

Speech by Dr. Christopher Crittenden, Director of the North Carolina State Department of Archives and History and Trustee of the National Trust, to the Association of Historic Sites Administrators, New Orleans, October 31, 1958.

In the various phases of historical and allied activities in the United States and Canada, probably no area has experienced more rapid growth and development in recent years than that of historic sites. More and more such sites are being developed, visitors number more than 60,000,000 annually, public interest is increasing by leaps and bounds. The movement, indeed, is snowballing; and where it will finally end—indeed, whether it will ever come to an end—none of us can foresee at the present time. We can understand, however, that it has very great potentialities. . . .

What are some of the problems and pitfalls of historic sites programs?

Authenticity. Here we have a range beginning with outright fakes (such as the Cardiff giant, now at Cooperstown—not exactly a historic s-i-t-e, I admit, but at least a historic s-i-g-h-t). Next come what I will call the pseudos, those that are not exactly dishonest but that at least are not completely authentic. At Fort Raleigh on Roanoke Island, for example, site of Sir Walter Raleigh's ill-fated colonies, a WPA project in the 1930's needed to get men to work in a hurry. So in a short time they worked up a project and proceeded, with almost no evidence at all, to erect a number of log cabins. They even built a log chapel—the settlers should have had a chapel whether they actually did have one or not, so let's put one up. Next we have the semi-accurate restoration, where someone restores an old structure and then proceeds to put in materials and furnishings that are old but not necessarily appropriate or of the proper period—not too bad but still not too good. Finally, best of all, we have the really authentic places, such as Williamsburg and the sites maintained by the National Park Service. As we all realize, perhaps above everything else a historic site ought to be authentic.

How to assist the amateur. The professional understands the necessity of careful and exhaustive research—documentary, architectural, archaeological– and that one should do little or nothing at a site until such research has been conducted. But the amateur often wants quick results, and one of our chief problems is to prevail upon him to go slow, to do the research first. Perhaps the hardest thing to tell him is that, in a case where there appears to be no definite evidence whatsoever, or a lack of sufficient evidence, the best thing may be to do no reconstructing or restoring at all but merely to leave things as they are with perhaps a few markers or memorials and possibly a museum.

Political pressures and enigmas. As the public becomes more and more interested in historic sites, there seems to be increasing pressure on public agencies to take over and maintain properties that are either of insufficient importance or else are not authentic. Again, on the part of public officials and legislative bodies there is a tendency to assign to historical agencies the function of handling historic sites but at the same time of failing to provide sufficient funds for the purpose. In general, there appears to be a widespread lack of understanding and appreciation on the part of politicians and public officials of what a good historic sites program ought to be and can be. Here we have on our hands a big task of salesmanship, and perhaps our most potent argument is the commercial one. Probably eventually we will win this fight, because the tide seems to be running strongly in our favor. (Some 35 years ago a governor of my own state said that there was in North Carolina not a single historic site worth preserving. Today our people are tremendously interested in this work and are busily reconstructing, restoring, and maintaining literally hundreds of such sites.)

Lack of a well-planned program. Of

course we cannot foresee everything that is going to happen in the future, but should we not at least attempt to outline a long-range program, to lay down criteria, to indicate some of the things both that we ought to do and that we ought not to do? Such planning may perhaps make it possible to meet, at least in part, some of the political pressures mentioned above.

Spreading ourselves too thin. Should a state historic sites system, for example, include a dozen sites, or 30, or 60, or 100? And to what extent should a state historical agency assist in local projects, financially, by research, or otherwise? More and more we seem to be called on to aid in scores and even hundreds of such undertakings. We will have to draw the line somewhere. But where? How can we render the greatest service to all our people?

A lopsided program. Many of our systems so far are not well balanced. I seem to remember hearing the comment, for example, that the National Park Service finds itself maintaining too many Civil War battlefields, especially in one certain state. Obviously we need to develop historic sites that will illustrate the varied aspects of our past—economic, religious, cultural, political, military, and others.

Preserving sites merely because they are old. Of course we all recognize the importance of preserving places that portray our beginnings, such as Jamestown or Plymouth Rock (if the latter is indeed preserved), but a well-rounded program should include much more than that. Is there too much of a tendency to wait until most of the physical remains of a long-past period are gone and then to seek to save the few remaining ones primarily because of their age? Should we instead undertake in a positive way to select and preserve sites from our immediate past and possibly even from the present? For instance, the best example of surviving Victorian household architecture that I have ever seen is at Saratoga. Could a block or more of that be saved? What about a boarding-house, so common a few decades ago but now almost extinct? Our school architecture is changing with dramatic speed. Should we preserve examples of such architecture from the immediate past? And, of particular interest to the writer, what about railroad passenger stations—which may soon be entirely unused? Nashville has a superb one, with turrets and even colored windows. In my home town of Wake Forest is a fine example of a small town station, freshly painted, containing the benches and the old stove in the waiting room and even the cash drawer and the rubber stamp in the agent's office—all now entirely unused. Why wait until a site is a century or more old to take steps to save it?

Prettification. In my home city of Raleigh stands the birthplace of Andrew Johnson, seventeenth President of the United States. The house is tiny, the family was poor and completely unpretentious. And yet, do you know, a few years ago a local organization engaged a landscape architect to draw up plans for a formal garden just outside the house, with curving paths, boxwoods, and all the other trimmings. Fortunately we were able to stop that ill-advised effort, but it typifies a widespread tendency to prettify, to make both exteriors and interiors far more luxurious and beautiful than they actually were, and thus to give a false impression of what we are seeking to portray.

Unreal neatness. Lawns, gardens, bedrooms, kitchens, and other parts of historic sites are often tidied up so that they look anything but lived in. Most people, as we all know, leave shoes and clothes and pans and dishes lying around in more or less confusion, and to look real a historic site ought to be dealt with accordingly. (A fortunate exception, I may mention, is the Franklin D. Roosevelt home at Hyde Park, where each room yet appears to be lived in, with an open magazine on a table, vases of fresh flowers, and even the leash of the little dog Falla thrown carelessly across a chair.)

Preserving rich men's homes. The great plantations near Charleston, Biltmore

estate near Asheville, the summer places of the rich at Newport—I am afraid that some of us stress such sites to the neglect of places representing the middle and lower classes.

Preserving the bizarre and unusual. In the little town of Kernersville, N. C., is a house known as Koerner's Folly, built by the advertising genius who made Bull Durham Smoking Tobacco known around the world, even painting a huge figure of the bull on the Rock of Gibraltar. The house is truly amazing, containing among other things what they claim is the first little theater hall in the South. But it is anything but typical. Should we preserve such a place, or should we emphasize the typical and usual?

Preservation by the rich. Do a disproportionate share of persons active in this work belong mainly to the wealthy classes (and, of course, want to preserve the sites representing their own prototypes of the past)? In this connection, however, we run into the question whether other classes will or can be interested—and to date they have not been, at least in proportion to their numbers. We have to work with and make use of the people who show an active interest—and will put up the money.

Over-emphasis on social activities. Some of the organizations in the field seem to go in so extensively for formal dinners (with distinguished guests), mammoth receptions, and the like that the major purpose may tend to be dimmed and befogged. (And yet the social events seem to be greatly enjoyed and apparently are a good device for winning interest and support—again, mainly from the wealthy and the upper social crust.)

Assembling a hodgepodge of old buildings. This is to be avoided if done at the caprice and whim of an individual; however, by determining in advance the field that is to be covered and then by staying strictly within that field, it is possible to do an excellent job of depicting the life of a certain region for a defined period—as at Old Sturbridge Village or Cooperstown.

Condemnation of land. At times we need the power of eminent domain, though even if we have it we may yet be held up for exorbitant prices—as recently at Tryon Palace. Such matters need to be handled with great care and tact in order not to arouse public opposition, or at least not too much of it.

Waiting until too late to save a historic site. How many times have all of us run into the problem of the old house that is to be torn down next week in order to make room for a parking lot or a superhighway? We make frantic efforts to do something—and usually we are too late. . . .

Historic sites surveys. In order to prevent such losses as those just mentioned, each community might appropriately make a survey of its historic sites, with pictures and descriptive data for each. With such a survey, we can approach the problem with exact information and a definite plan.

Zoning. Obviously this is needed to save historic sites or areas from encroachment of various types. Charleston, Savannah, New Orleans, Beacon Hill in Boston, and other places have shown us the way, but many other communities need to take similar action. A good deal of skillful salesmanship will often be required.

Admission fees. Should we, or should we not, charge an admission fee, and if so how much? This is not a simple problem and depends on many factors. Is the site privately owned and if so is it adequately endowed? Is it publicly owned and if so is there a sufficient appropriation for maintenance? Without attempting to discuss in detail these and other relevant problems, I would like to suggest that perhaps we can see the matter more clearly if we ask ourselves this question: What is the primary purpose of a historic sites program? You may not agree, but to me the one purpose that should stand far above all others is simply to teach our people their history, to make them cognizant and appreciative of the heritage that is theirs. If this is true, then I feel that we should bend every effort to make these

historic shrines accessible to and within the financial means of all classes, bankers and tenant farmers, social dames and factory workers, everybody. If we accept such a philosophy, I feel that, while an admission charge may justifiably be made in some instances, such a charge should be kept so low that everyone can afford to pay it. The National Park Service has set a fine example in this respect.

These are by no means all the problems and pitfalls, but perhaps they are enough for one brief paper. We need to face them frankly and intelligently in order to work out a better historic sites program. I believe that in time all these problems can be worked out—and I am confident that there is a great future for historic sites programs in the United States.

NO MORE HAUSSMANNS

(—from *Landscape*, Winter 1958-59. Synopsis of an article by Yvan Christ in *Arts*, October 1958, Paris.)

Francis I is supposed to have said to Charles V, "Paris is more than a city; it is a province." And it would have been disastrous if this province, slowly moulded by empirical processes, had been the work of a single reign, or a single person, or of a single style. We can thank heaven that some more or less inspired city planner did not make of Paris the sort of administrative center which came into being toward the end of the eighteenth century in America and in Germany. Only one man was able to realize, at least in part, his ambitions: the all-too-celebrated Baron Haussmann. It is thanks to this man that we live in a city heavily disfigured by that style known as Napoleon III. Who among us has not regretted this fact; who does not continue to regret it? The nineteenth century was a crossroads opened by the French Revolution; a civilized continuity was destroyed which will doubtless never be restored. Our present century claims, and with some reason, to have embarked on a new civilization, one which has scarcely any points in common with the one which made us what we are. Lovers of the past — I am one of them — have never maintained to the contrary. The partisans of the new civilization throw our arguments back in our teeth. They say, in effect, that the creative periods of the past never knew those spoilsports which we call archaeologists; and that if the past had listened to the prudent spirits, the reactionaries, nothing great or daring would ever have been accomplished and Paris would still be a medieval city.

Let us reverse the proposition. If at each period there had not been some defender of the past, the medieval churches and cathedrals would have been destroyed under Louis XIV, the Renaissance palaces would have been levelled in the eighteenth century, the residences of the Louis XV period would have been sacrificed by the nineteenth century. If we are not careful, even the Paris of Haussmann, mediocre though it is, will also disappear. For proof one need only observe the number of small residences of the end of the last century which in the former "elegant sections" of the city are making way for office buildings and the type of construction we see everywhere else. Archaeologists are a sort of barrier, a protection; their role has developed, their legitimate claims have grown in the last century and a half because the world has changed in appearance during that interval, and because we are the few who, devoted to the cult of memory, are not resigned to accepting the disappearance of the evidences of the older aspects of the world.

No, the ideal Paris cannot and should not exist. We must defend not a unity of style, but a unity of civilization.

Everybody's Church

"A Service of Appreciation" was held on February 8 at Everybody's Church, Lexington, Ky., in honor of the Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation (a National Trust member organization). Members of the Blue Grass Trust contributed $1,645.10 to the building fund to help put the structure in good repair when the non-denominational, unsegregated congregation moved from temporary headquarters to make Centenary Church its permanent place of worship.

Last fall a death notice of the church, "Boom Falls on Centenary Methodist Church," ran for a week in the classified columns of the Lexington papers. Pipe organ, stained glass windows, brick, and lumber, all were offered for sale. At the last minute, however, wrecking plans were called off and the 91-year-old building was purchased, restored, and occupied by Everybody's Church. Brick walls were tuck pointed. Timbers inside were termite-proofed, and partitions were put up for new Sunday School and assembly rooms. Pews and carpets were purchased from the demolished Warren Memorial Presbyterian Church in Louisville.

Joseph C. Graves, president of the Blue Grass Trust, states "The congregation secured the church, with the improvements, for $53,000. The pews and carpets were purchased for $1,000. If a similar church were erected in Lexington today, my guess is that it would easily cost $250,000. It is one of the most remarkable instances of preservation I have ever witnessed. Everybody who has seen the church is delighted with the work the congregation has done."

Centenary was built in 1872 by Cincinnatus Shryock, the younger brother of the better-known architect, Gideon Shryock. Cincinnatus studied architecture under his already famous older brother, and stayed in Lexington to practice when Gideon went to Louisville. Where Gideon dealt with the classic-columned portico and the majestic public building, Cincinnatus found his medium in the Tudor Gothic and early Victorian. Each responded to the tastes and demands of his own age; Gideon brought the Greek temple to Kentucky, Cincinnatus helped bring the English castle.

At least 13 houses designed by Cincinnatus still stand in Lexington; one is in Gratz Park, with the Hunt-Morgan House on its right and the Benjamin Gratz House on its left. Three public buildings, the old Opera House, Fayette County's fourth courthouse, and the old Lexington Post Office are now gone. His finest work is Lexington's First Presbyterian Church (1872), modeled somewhat on the soaring lines of New York City's Trinity Church.

PROGRESS REPORT

(The projects discussed in this article have been reported in earlier issues of the quarterly as embattled or endangered.)

Bennett Rice Mill, Charleston, S. C., is being made fireproof and structurally safe. A crew of workmen began by removing the old wooden roof of the 114-year-old structure which was saved from razing by concerted action of the South Carolina Ports Authority, the Charleston Preservation Society, and the Historic Charleston Foundation. The building was ordered condemned as unsafe and a firetrap by the Charleston engincer's office, and the fire department ordered that it be demolished. However, the Preservation Society, the Foundation, and interested individuals intervened and obtained a lease on the property for five years from the State Ports Authority.

In New York City the Western Electric Company tore down the old St. Paul Building but saved its portal sculpture. Created in 1896 by Karl Bitter, its three stone atlantes represent a Caucasian, a Negro, and a Malayan. Now worth about $100,000, the portal was donated to the city of Indianapolis which has promised to utilize it with its three figures in Holliday Park, providing it with a setting of appropriate planting and a reflecting pool. This was the first triumph of a newly organized Committee to Preserve American Art, formed in New York as a small, mobile group to act quickly to save worthy sculpture, murals, metalwork, stained glass, and other adornment of about-to-be demolished buildings. Chairman of the committee is Francis Keally, president of the Fine Arts Federation of New York. Members are Adlai S. Hardin, president of the National Sculpture Society; Charles Baskerville, president of the National Society of Mural Painters; Karl H. Gruppe, vice-president of the National Academy of Design; and Thomas M. Beggs, director of the National Collection of Fine Arts of the Smithsonian Institution.

Washington Square in New York's Greenwich Village is undergoing a "trial period" with no vehicular traffic permitted except for fire fighting and similar emergencies. Although the park was established in the 1830's, bus and local traffic were not admitted until Stanford White's arch was built in 1895. The trial is the result of a campaign by Village residents, civic groups, and small storekeepers who formed the Joint Emergency Committee to close Washington Square Park to traffic. With a slogan, "A Park—Not a Parkway," the Committee opposed the City Planning Commission's proposal to construct two 12-foot traffic lanes for arterial through-traffic, separated by a 12-foot mall through the Square. Lewis Mumford had termed the new road "an almost classic example of bad planning." It is felt that the traffic ban will be made permanent, and that increased maintenance funds for the park will be forthcoming.

Historic Annapolis, Inc., has engaged Dr. Henry Chandlee Forman, A.I.A., Easton, Md., as architect of the restoration of Slicer House which the Society purchased last year. This is the initial step in the proposed restoration of the Annapolis waterfront. The Slicer House was built about 1720 on Lot 88 owned by Gov. Thomas Bladen and leased by Edward Smith, an innkeeper. Prominent members of the Slicer family who lived in the house were William, noted cabinetmaker of the 1760's, and his son, Andrew, captain in the War of 1812. Among other interesting owners identified with the House were Ashbury Sutton, a shipbuilder, who operated sailing ferries to the Eastern Shore, and Francis B. Mayer, an artist, whose paintings of "The Burning of the Peggy Stewart" and "The Planting of the Colony" hang in the State House at Annapolis. Since the Slicer House was remodeled about 1780-1800 in the fashion of the post-Revolutionary period, it will be restored as a transitional house, retaining the interesting vertical panelling of the 1720 period that appears in some of the rooms, and in others keeping the 1780-90

mantels and woodwork of the later period. The Society is conducting a campaign to raise funds which will be matched by a grant from the Old Dominion Foundation.

On February 24, House Speaker Sam Rayburn turned two silver-plated spadefuls of dirt. This signaled the beginning of construction on the East Front extension of the nation's Capitol which will copy the original sandstone façade in marble. A recent supplemental budget to Congress asked for an additional $4 million to extend the East Front and make repairs to the building, raising the cost from $17 to $21 million. Speaker Rayburn told an audience of several hundred persons that the new façade would be "the pride and joy of everybody . . ."; he continued by saying that we "liked the old things if they're historical, but the new East Front was needed because the old one was in dangerous condition. We need room. We need pleasant surroundings if possible. We need this beautiful East Front. We need to hide this overhanging dome." Senate Republican Leader Everett McKinley Dirksen (Ill.) told the crowd that the ceremony "officially consecrates the modification of a great shrine. . . . One look at the dome as it overhangs the wall is probably better evidence than all the words that can be uttered." In 1956 *Architectural Forum* had stated that newspaper accounts usually give "the entirely false impression that the Congressmen are in danger of being beaned." The House and Senate Chaplains opened and closed the brief groundbreaking ceremony with prayers. Capitol Architect J. George Stewart said he hoped to display one of the shovels in the Capitol wall. The patch of ground dug up by Speaker Rayburn was just to the right of the old front door and several hundred feet from the original Capitol cornerstone, laid by George Washington in 1793. The new cornerstone is to be placed on July 4, 1959. The extension of the East Front represents the "architectural battle of the year, lost by the American Institute of Architects and its allies, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Society of Architectural Historians, the College Art Association, an influential group of professional 'preservationists' and many influential publications headed by the New York *Times*," stated Douglas Haskell, editor of the *Architectural Forum*, in the 1959 edition of Britannica's *Book of the Year*.

John Harbeson, concerned about the position of the National Trust against the east front extension, has asked the National Trust to distribute his paper, "The Reverse of the Capitol Story." This is available upon request to members at National Trust headquarters. A member of the National Trust, Mr. Harbeson is also a member of the Philadelphia architectural firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson, one of the three firms advising the Architect of the Capitol on the east front extension.

MEMBERSHIP

There have been 16 new member organizations since December 31, 1958:

American Catholic Historical Association (D.C.); American Meteorological Society (Mass.); Association of Natchitoches Women for Preservation of Historic Natchitoches (La.); Capitol Hill Restoration Society (D.C.); Cincinnati Catholic Women's Association (Ohio); Friends of Fort Western (Maine); Historic Hermann, Inc. (Mo.); International Garden Club, Inc.; Loretto Historical Museum (Ky.); Louisiana Colonials of New Iberia; National Society Colonial Dames in Oklahoma; North Fulton Business Men's Association (Ga.); Siskiyou Pioneer Sites Foundation (Oreg.); Society of California Pioneers; The Taft Museum (Ohio); and Watkins Mill Association (Mo.).

Evans Farm Inn (Va.) became a new corporate member.

DESTRUCTION

Bloomington, Ill. Major's Hall Memorial Committee is conducting a drive to raise $5,000 for a memorial to Major's Hall, recently razed as part of a city parking lot program. The Committee is asking the state for a statue of Abraham Lincoln, who delivered his famous "Lost Speech" in the Hall, as a suitable marker for the building. The Hall was also the birthplace of the Illinois State Normal University and the Second Presbyterian Church.

Tombstone, Ariz. The Nellie Cashman Hotel, a one-story, adobe structure once the home of such characters of the old West as Marshall Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday, was recently destroyed by fire. Miss Cashman, a beautiful woman renowned for her kindness to miners "down on their luck," operated the hotel under the name of the Russ House during the 1870's and the early part of the 1880's. Miss Cashman's boarding house faced the O. K. Corral, where the three Earp brothers, Wyatt, Virgil, and Morgan, fought their famous gun battle with Ike and Billy Clanton, Tom and Frank McLowery, and Billy Claiborne in 1881. According to legend, Miss Cashman, one of the town's most respected women, who was said to have never been tainted by a hint of scandal, left Tombstone that same year. It was always thought she loved no man until one day a gambler by the name of John Heath was pulled from the Tombstone jail and lynched. Nellie made a celebrated plea in Heath's defense, even though it was proved he had a part in a holdup and killing. When they hanged him she packed up her things, went to Alaska, and was never heard of again.

Lebanon, Ill. McKendree College's famous century-old chapel has won a year's reprieve from a sentence to destruction. Students and alumni, supported by the National Trust and the preservation officers of the American Institute of Architects, appealed to have the chapel preserved. Orders to demolish it to provide

McKendree College chapel, Lebanon, Ill., after destruction of the steeple in February

a site for a modern chapel to be erected with funds pledged by Miss Marion Bothwell were issued. The steeple had been wrecked before mounting sentiment caused a stop order to be issued. The advocates of preservation had an estimate of $81,000 to completely rejuvenate the chapel, placing it in sound condition for another century, but retaining its outward appearance. Since demolition of the steeple, a revised estimate of $100,000 has been submitted, and the preservation group has been given one year to raise that fund, while the College agrees to maintain the chapel as it is.

San Francisco, Calif. Fire ruined the $1 million medieval Spanish monastery in Golden Gate Park in December. The Santa Maria de Ovila Monastery was brought to San Francisco in 1930 by the late William Randolph Hearst and donated to the city in 1941. It was to have been restored as a music and art center, but no funds were available. The blaze spread rapidly because the excelsior and crates for the monastery's 10,000 pieces of stone had become exceptionally dry from the drought. In addition, oily eucalyptus leaves

forming a blanket over the crates increased the blaze, that was "like feeding the flames with kerosene." The fire was believed to have been started by youngsters who climbed the seven-foot fence to play games on the 30-foot-high piles of crates. The monastery lay in a warehouse for 10 years after it arrived aboard 12 ships, crated and with each piece numbered for re-erection. It was then moved into the park and stored in the open. As the crates burned, pieces of stone tumbled down 30 feet to create rubble like that of a war-time bombing. Hundreds of other pieces were badly blackened—their identification numbers eradicated. The edifice originally sprawled on a cliff above the Tagus River 80 miles from Madrid. Begun in 1185 and completed in the sixteenth century, it was built of limestone by Cistercian monks. It was partially in ruins when Hearst acquired it.

Worcester, Mass. The end of time came for "The Lord of Washington Square," the famous clock tower on Worcester's old Union Station. The tower took three months to demolish at a loss of $12,000 to the wreckers, who said it was their toughest job in 16 years. Four times in recent years proposals by "anti-clock" factions were stopped by history-minded residents. Built in 1875 and abandoned in 1912 when the present Union Station was opened, it was one of the highest structures in the city. Proposals to dismantle and rebuild the tower elsewhere were felt to be impractical when estimates of $200,000 were given. Part of the 300-400 tons of granite was presented by the wreckers to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Worcester for possible use in construction of a chapel. The three-and-a-half ton clock, one of the largest in New England, went to the city dump after being offered to city officials as a gift.

Boston, Mass. The Old Mechanics Building is being demolished, as the site for the $100 million Prudential Center is being cleared. Since its construction in 1881, Mechanics Building served as exhibition hall and auditorium for generations of New Englanders. The scene of the world's first automobile show, the hall also provided a forum for politicians campaigning for office on every level since the days of William Jennings Bryan in the 1890's. The structure was built by the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association, a private organization formed in 1794 to secure reforms in the old system of trade apprenticeships. First headed by Paul Revere, the group worked to secure Massachusetts' ratification of the Constitution and later in 1843 completed the Bunker Hill Monument.

St. Louis, Mo. An "obituary" of important buildings that St. Louis allowed to be destroyed was read by Charles van Ravenswaay, director of the Missouri Historical Society, at the organizational meeting of Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc. "Within the few blocks immediately around the place where we are meeting now (the old courthouse which had a narrow escape from destruction in the Mississippi riverfront clearance project), we have suffered some grievous losses," he said. "The John W. Johnson House, just across the alley from the old American Theatre, was torn down 10 years ago. A fine parking lot now covers the site. A lot of visitors used to enjoy visiting Speck's old coffee house, but I doubt that anybody has come to St. Louis to look at the parking lot at that address. The old National Hotel and the Jean Baptiste Roy House were two cases of absolutely needless and tragic destruction. The old Customs House at Third and Olive Streets—I'll never understand why that building was not included in the riverfront project. We saved the Campbell House and the Eugene Field House by the skin of our teeth. This old courthouse still stands only as the result of a frantic last-minute appeal in Washington by Luther Ely Smith." Joseph Passonneau, president of the Landmarks Society and dean of the Washington University School of Architecture, issued an invitation to the public to join and support the

group, which already has one urgent problem—preservation of the old Lewis Bissell Mansion at 4426 Randall Place, on the route of the Mark Twain Expressway.

IN DANGER

Cambridge, Mass. Plans to turn a 40-acre portion of the Charles River Basin into a giant water-borne apartment and industrial development area are being battled by 15 Cambridge and Boston industrial, university, civic, and recreational groups, including the Beacon Hill Civic Association. The underwater real estate scheme, they say, threatens the entire 700-acre Charles River Basin. A bill was introduced into the legislature to permit the developers to erect the structures on stilts at a point on the Basin jutting about three-fourths of the way west from Longfellow Bridge towards Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The Mayor of Cambridge is an advocate of the measure claiming it would take $16 off the tax rate. This figure has been challenged by all of the Boston newspapers who are unanimous in their editorial opposition to the proposal. They also point out that the Metropolitan District Commission has spent $25 million since 1910 developing the scenic and recreational facilities of the Basin and contend that the scheme could produce more costs to the city in terms of expensive service and road access requirements, as well as flood precautions, than the revenues it might return.

Cincinnati, Ohio. Within two years the Northeast Expressway will close in on *The Hermitage*, the Wulsin estate, which sits in a 30-acre pastoral setting in the midst of busy Hyde Park. The city may acquire the remaining land for recreational purposes. The road will miss the mansion house by some 60 yards but will take the old carriage house and other outbuildings. The land was platted by John Cleves Symmes in the early part of the nineteenth century and the mansion erected in 1840. Still another link of the Northeast Expressway jeopardizes the Lytle Park area. A public meeting was held in March at the Taft Museum to explore possible ways of protecting the area, perhaps by tunneling. William J. Murtagh, assistant to the president of the National Trust, represented the Trust on this occasion. Slated for destruction are the Women's Club, the Cincinnati Catholic Women's Association headquarters, and several other structures facing the square. The Lytle Park area itself will be bisected by the Expressway at an angle. The Cincinnati *Enquirer* reported that the task of those opposing the expressway location is to "agree on a program, determine its cost and suggest how the city could pay for it. The cost factor adds to the need for haste. It is agreed by all concerned that the state will not contribute any more than its five per cent share of the cost of any connection via Lytle Park. Most of the increased cost would have to be paid by the city. . . . But delay could endanger the whole Northeast Expressway project. When funds are limited and demands are great, state governments tend to support projects which are ready to move. The charm of Lytle Park should be preserved if a feasible and not-too-costly substitute plan can be worked out. But the time element is important." At the meeting, it was stated that the Citizens Committee to Preserve Lytle Park had obtained an appropriation from the City Council to study an effective scheme of minimizing damage from the route.

Washington, D. C. Representative Robert E. Jones, Jr. (D.-Ala.) has introduced a bill in Congress to provide for the extension of an East Mall of the Capitol to the Anacostia River to provide for future federal expansion. Also named in the bill for another "taking area" is the block bounded by Seventeenth Street, New York Avenue, Eighteenth Street, and G Street. The block includes the old Emergency Hospital, the Allies Inn (a group of late federal period buildings), and The Octagon, restored headquarters of the Ameri-

The Ford (1842), Seven Mile Ford, Va.

can Institute of Architects. The scheme has been recommended by J. George Stewart, architect of the Capitol.

Seven Mile Ford, Va. Extension of a federal-aid highway in Smyth County along the old Wilderness Road to the West threatens extinction of one of Virginia's most historic thoroughfares, and the enveloping of a famous pioneer inn in a concrete cloverleaf. The Seven Mile Ford originated as an important river crossing on the Wilderness Road, seven miles between the blockhouses of Royal Oak (near the present site of Marion) and Kilmachron. The pioneer trail passed through the Chilhowie Valley—"The Valley of Many Deer," once a busy Indian thoroughfare connecting the Cherokee tribes of the South and those of the Five Nations in the North. The original ford is still in use, but highway engineers will divert the course of the old river. The present 22-room brick stagecoach inn was built in 1842 by John M. Preston on the site of an earlier log structure, and was identified with this prominent Virginia family until 1942. In 1864 General George Stoneman, the Union raider, made his headquarters at the inn. Horses were stabled in the dining room and meat was hacked on the mahogany tables. When the Union soldiers vacated the house, every window pane had been broken and all the furniture had been burnt as firewood. One of the numerous ghosts who return to haunt the place, according to local legend, is a Union soldier who walks the cellar steps with his head tucked underneath his arm. Other restless spirits are believed to be those 20 whose skeletons were discovered in a cave in 1892, and whose mysterious disappearances were reported in the era of the predecessor log cabin inn of evil reputation.

Port Dickinson, N. Y. Sawtell Tavern on Chenango Street was built shortly after the Revolution by Captain John Sawtell, a fighter in the Battle of Bunker Hill. It is being demolished to provide a new site for the Calvary Baptist Church. The Broome County Historical Society sought to preserve the historic tavern which had links to many local personages as well as to Talleyrand, Louis Philippe, and Louis Paul D'Autremont, refugees from the French Reign of Terror. However, the Church had to move rapidly to acquire the site as it was being displaced by the construction of a major highway, and the preservation group failed in its major effort.

Tucson, Ariz. Under the heading "Restoration Plans always Fail," the Tucson *Star* reports on 30 years of effort to restore or reconstruct old Fort Lowell which was abandoned by the Army in 1891. Mud walls have disintegrated, Craycroft Road now intersects the officers' quarters, and the 1958 Parade of Homes subdivision now marks its southern boundary. In the past three decades efforts at preservation and reconstruction have been made by the University of Arizona, the Arizona Pioneers Historical Society, the Catalina Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and finally by the parks and recreation department of Pima County, which would like to reconstruct the hospital as a children's museum and develop park and picnic facilities, but lacks financial support.

GRANTS

Walter Muir Whitehill, director of the Boston Athenaeum, was awarded a $20,000 grant by the Council on Library Resources to study the contributions which historical societies have made to cultural life in the United States. The study is sponsored by the Virginia Historical Society, Richmond; the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.; and the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston. Mr. Whitehill will investigate the status, problems, and prospects of privately supported or controlled historical societies. Emphasis will be placed upon their importance as research institutions and their contributions to the cultural life of the United States during the past 150 years. One of the aims of the study is to provide a basis for closer collaboration among these societies, which are the oldest "special libraries" in the United States and the repositories of unique materials for the study of American history.

Two University of California professors, architect Stephen W. Jacobs and city planner Barclay G. Jones, have received a Rockefeller Foundation grant for a one-year study to determine how urban landmarks and monuments can be preserved as American cities rebuild. Using San Francisco for their pilot survey, they hope to work out techniques for evaluating and retaining the physical elements of a cityscape. According to the professors, "Compared with European procedures, American techniques for rebuilding cities are needlessly destructive." They list four major difficulties which lead to the neglect and disappearance of historic, artistic, or valuable structures: Insufficient awareness on the part of decision-making officials of the value and extent to which citizens treasure the buildings; lack of methods for identifying important physical elements and lack of criteria for determining their value; design approaches which do not bother to retain significant structures; lack of techniques for considering the value of existing landmarks to residents of the area.

EDIFICE REX

Representative James C. Wright (D.-Tex.) has introduced legislation to save our national shrines and historic edifices. Recently he buttonholed a colleague about his bill. After a lengthy discourse by Wright, the colleague shook his head sadly and remarked, "Jim, I'm afraid you're getting an Edifice Complex."—*Roll Call* (The newspaper of Capitol Hill), February 25, 1959.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

Action was taken against 5 substandard slum dwellings in the city of Charleston, S. C. Four of the petitions were brought by the Housing Authority and the fifth by neighbors of the slum. Within three months necessary repairs were made to conform to a minimal standard. The owner of a once handsome house on Alexander Street was charged with maintaining an unsafe building but has taken out permits for all essential repairs.

Pennsylvania is again proposing an enabling act to permit "counties, boroughs, incorporated towns, and townships to create historic districts within their geographical limits, providing for the appointment of Boards of Historical and Architectural Review empowered to preserve historic buildings and to regulate the erection, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition, or razing of buildings within the historic districts." The House Bill No. 579 was introduced on February 25 and on March 2 was referred to the Committee on Municipal Corporations. One provision of the Act stipulates that no historic districts shall be created under it until the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has certified their historical significance.

In its report for 1958 the Historic Districts Commission for the town of Nantucket, Mass., reported that it issued 139 certificates of appropriateness for struc-

tural work, 46 applications governing signs, and 9 applications for demolition. Two buildings were razed to permit the erection of a new supermarket in the center of the town, but architects and builders of the market made numerous personal appearances before the Commission to secure approval of appropriate exterior architectural features for the new structure.

Having lost its battle against regulation at the federal level, the billboard lobby is now concentrating its efforts in the state legislatures. At least 25 of 44 state legislatures meeting this year will consider bills to regulate billboards along major highways. Some of these have been written with the small federal-aid roadside protection bonus in mind. (It amounts to one-half of one per cent over and above the 90 per cent federal share for those providing protection on an established federal standard.) The lobby is concentrating on watering-down or entirely eliminating legislation at the state level.

Mayor Leo T. Murphy of Santa Fe, N. M., states that although laws protecting the historic zone of the old southwest city provide fines or jail sentences for violations, the value of the laws is mostly psychological—"It discourages them before they get started." Since 1953, the heart of the city has been named as a historic zone, and within the area building or alteration must conform to the "old Santa Fe style" or to a modification of it permitted as "recent Santa Fe style." The main emphasis is on the quality and color of building materials, and upon flat roofs. Skylights, air-conditioning devices, and television aerials are all permitted—if hidden from view. Signs and billboards are stringently regulated. Elsewhere, billboards are permitted but are so unpopular that raiding parties frequently chop them down. Police have no record of convictions for this offense.

Plans for the renewal of downtown Hartford, Conn., do not involve making a clean sweep by bulldozer of the entire area, according to the report of architect Archibald C. Rogers, senior planning consultant, given at a luncheon of the City Plan Commission and Hartford Chamber of Commerce. Declaring parks, churches, and museums as "positive factors," he is incorporating them into the plan as links with the city's past. The Hartford *Courant* comments, ". . . it is reassuring to note that the value of the best that already exists in the business section is appreciated by the planners. At a time when reclaiming slums starts what almost seems a frenzy of destructiveness, it is well that planners don't make clearance a habit. There is much that is worth saving in old cities. It may take a little extra work to save old churches and historic buildings, but it is worth the trouble."

Richard S. Schoenberger, a member of the American Institute of Planners and a city planner from the town of Monroe, Mich., has sent a list of suggestions for discussion by members of the National Trust concerned with the problem of tax deductions as a device for stimulating private initiative in historic preservation. Although working with Monroe, he has not yet made a proposed program for the locality but invites comment from our readers on the following: "Any approach to the issue of preservation of older houses of historical values must necessarily be prefaced by examination of the present methods of support. Here, in the Middle West, the common approach appears to be public or semi-public operation.

"We know that there are several factors concerned here. The principal drawback is the characteristic dispersal of older houses throughout the city and the lack of comprehensive size which the historical towns such as Williamsburg offer. This, of course, dissipates whatever historical value the houses may have and forces the operating agencies to pick the *one* most historic house. In addition, such houses must be suitably located. The public or semi-public agencies are then definitely limited as to the number of houses that can be taken over.

"To accommodate the other houses which cannot be handled by such agencies, we are going to have to find other benefactors. This means expanding the scope of proprietorship to include private ownership and occupancy. Just how this can be accomplished is the question.

"Examination of the reasons why private individuals of better than average means do not pick up these houses leads to the conclusion that *not even they can afford it.* The writer, feeling that there must be some middle ground, then asked several such individuals just where the breaking point was. This turned out to hinge on the fact that no tax exemptions were given for restoration expenses. Several felt that they could afford it if such tax exemptions were given.

"The question put to these individuals was 'Would you be interested in such and such house if certain tax exemptions were allowed?' Characteristic replies were 'Definitely yes, depending on the amount, of course.' One person indicated that he had been considering such a house for years but that he just couldn't swing it. The writer feels that there is enough interest here to warrant more investigation. This means study of the minimum exemptions that would make this solution work and what governmental agency should grant this exemption.

"On the surface, a federal income tax exemption would be the most effective way of accomplishing this end; however, the drawback is the lack of national interest. Also, tax studies would have to be made on a national level. In the interest of early realization, it would appear that *local tax exemptions* could be accomplished more readily. This would of course mean state enabling legislation to allow the municipalities to adopt such exemptions. This should not be too difficult especially if it were made 'optional'; that is, it would depend upon adoption by the local governmental units.

"It is suggested that exemptions should be granted only if the specific site and house were approved by the state historical societies. This could be expanded to include architectural control. There are other questions dealing with matters like availability of the houses for *organized* tours. The individuals I have contacted would not object to a limited number of tours not involving large numbers of people, as long as commercial 'tourism' could be avoided.

"It is realized that a lot of study will be needed before a workable plan could be achieved. This would have to include an actual study of just what it would cost to maintain selected houses and just what amount of exemption could be granted. Possibly, the local exemption may not amount to enough, but at least this could be used as a stopgap measure until the federal income deduction could be implemented.

"I feel that these studies could be made locally. I know we could work out at least one example here. If other communities could be prevailed upon to do likewise, we may come up with some strong supporting evidence."

Jacob H. Morrison, attorney in New Orleans, member of the Vieux Carré Property Owners and Associates (a Trust member organization), and author of *Historic Preservation Law,* has reported that the governing body of the city of New Orleans has been authorized to exempt buildings of historical and architectural significance from certain municipal taxes. The city has not yet passed an ordinance to carry into effect this constitutional provision for tax exemption. The Louisiana courts have consistently maintained the constitutionality of the Vieux Carré ordinance on the grounds that it preserves an entire homogeneous area which, though owned by private individuals, redounds to the economic benefit of the city as a whole. The French Quarter, as a tourist attraction, brings in more money to the city of New Orleans than any other industry except the port, which is the second largest in the United States.

Publications

The Jewish Community of Utica, New York, 1847-1948. S. Joshua Kohn. New York, N. Y.: American Jewish Historical Society. 1958. 221 pp., illus., index, bibl. $5.00.

The story of how a small Jewish community lived and prospered is written by a former rabbi of Utica; it is the outgrowth of an article written for Utica's centennial celebration in 1932.

According to Alice Cynthia Dodge, President of the Oneida Historical Society, "He has written a significant history of the origins of the Jewish people in Utica—significant because the account which evolves is probably universally true of the development of Jewish culture in other American cities of the early nineteenth century. Another fact that makes this particular history of enduring value is that it presents a thorough history of one facet in the total story of the growth of Utica, without which a complete history of the city would not be possible. The fabric of what Utica is today is due in great measure to the contributions to all the ethnic groups that came to the emerging city to make a home."

Organizing A Local Historical Society. Clement M. Silvestro. Madison, Wis.: The American Association for State and Local History. January 1959. Bulletin Vol. II, No. 8. 31 pp. $.50.

Written by the Executive Secretary of the American Association for State and Local History, this "how-to-do-it" will inspire local groups because of its practical nature. The procedure of organization is broken down into Preliminary Planning; Statement of Purpose; Regional Limits; Timing; The Organization Meeting—Planning, Programming, Publicity; Committees and Committee Work; Incorporation and Its Benefits; Affiliation; Taxation; Constitution; Bylaws; Classes of Membership and Dues; and Second Meeting.

The appendices include sample Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, and Bylaws.

Copies at $.50 each are available at National Trust headquarters to members and member organizations or at The American Association for State and Local History, 816 State Street, Madison 6, Wis.

Sketches of Iowa Landmarks. Des Moines, Iowa: The Home Federal Savings and Loan Association of Des Moines. 1958. Portfolio. Vol. I.

Sketches of Iowa Landmarks was sketched by William J. Wagner, A.I.A., and published privately by the Home Federal Savings and Loan Association of Des Moines, in cooperation with the Iowa Society for Preservation of Historical Landmarks "whose existence makes this book important" and the Iowa Chapter of the American Institute of Architects "whose encouragement made this book possible."

The attractive portfolio presents line drawings and historical background of 13 of Iowa's remaining "outposts of nineteenth-century architecture." Included in the series is the 100-year-old limestone Mills County Courthouse scheduled for demolition to make its site available for a new courthouse; the shingled Gothic Mount Vernon Methodist Church at Dexter which serves as a community center as well as a house of worship, after recent repair and redecoration; the Herbert Hoover birthplace, West Branch, which was restored and the area around it developed into a park by the Hoover Birthplace Society; the 1840 pioneer capitol of Iowa which now houses administrative offices of the University of Iowa on the campus in Iowa City; the 1840 Mason House at Bentonsport on the Des Moines River which is a privately owned museum and hotel; Redhead's Barn which was

designed by Des Moines' first architect and allowed to deteriorate until it was torn down recently to make room for a bus garage; and Dubuque's 150-foot "shot tower" on the bank of the Mississippi which produced shot for all styles of firearms from 1855 until 1863 and later served as a watchtower for a lumber company.

The Home Federal Savings and Loan Association is to be commended for publishing such a handsome booklet to inspire the men who shape Iowa's future with the values of the men who shaped its past. Listed as Volume One, it is hoped that the book will be followed each year with another series of Iowa's landmarks.

—T. B.M.

Hoover Birthplace, drawn by William J. Wagner

The Golden City. Henry Hope Reed, Jr. New York, N. Y.: Doubleday & Company, Inc. 1959. 160 pp., architectural glossary, index. $5.75.

Henry Hope Reed, co-author in 1955 with Christopher Tunnard of *American Skyline,* presents a pictorial argument of classical versus modern style in architecture and related American arts. The book is a denunciation of the modern style, which, Mr. Reed says, at its best is an engineering rather than an artistic achievement.

"Typical of so much of modern striving is the Kaufmann house (Bear Run, Pa.) by Frank Lloyd Wright. Technical proficiency, emphasis on texture, the 'open' plan, and the yoking with nature (it is built over a waterfall) add up to no more than an eccentricity. It is a relief to turn to the Diego Suarez villa (Long Island, N. Y.) by Frederic Rhinelander King, which reflects architecture in the true sense of the term. The building has sculpture and ornamental detail; it has a formal plan; it makes use of nature as a setting, not as a shroud. No doubt some will point an accusing finger at the villa's formal garden and speak of nature contravened, emphasizing the cost of maintenance. The lover of nature and economy may be upset to learn that, behind the waterfall over which it is built, the Kaufmann house boasts of a 'natural' pool heated to bathtub temperature. Wright is an architect who bars sculpture on the exterior and leaves no place on the interior for pictures, because of the low ceilings and irregular walls. King, on the other hand, makes place for sculpture and other ornament, offers high ceilings and walls to welcome pictures. The one by denying the past has found an originality which will die with him; the other by steeping himself in the past has found the beauty which beckons to the future."

Predicting the "gradual and already visible decline" of the modern style and the return to a new classical period, Mr. Reed states that "a nation to be great must build its Golden Cities. . . . When the Golden City rises in the next decade, it will spring from the work of the men of the American Renaissance, above all from that of Arthur Brown, Jr." Mr. Brown is co-architect of what Mr. Reed calls, "the greatest architectural ensemble in America"—the City Hall of San Francisco, flanked by the War Veterans Memorial Building and the War Memorial Opera House.

The Golden City of the nation's capital is lacking much, after a bold beginning, but can still be saved. Mr. Reed puts forth his

ideas and those of others to complete it in the classical style. One phase of the remedy: "At present our most imperial street is in a sad state. Pennsylvania Avenue is unfinished and must be completed to serve as a *via triumphalis* from the White House to the Capitol. We suggest that monumental façades be constructed on the north side of the avenue by the government; these will be sold to the present owners or future owners on condition that the facades remain unchanged. What the owners build behind the façades will be entirely up to them. In the same fashion additions will be made to the present buildings across the avenue to fill the lacunae of the continuing line of buildings and the pattern repeated on the south side of another triumphal way, Constitution Avenue, where a line of connected buildings will include the National Museum and the National Gallery. The buildings, as in the instance of those on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue, will be joined by handsomely ornamented arches."

Authors of Liberty. John Coleman. Illustrated by C. Edward Beach. New York, N. Y.: Vantage Press. 1958. 244 pp. and illus. $3.75.

A three-time recipient of the George Washington Honor Medal awarded by Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge for "outstanding achievement in bringing about a better understanding of the American way of life," Mr. Coleman presents popular and little-recognized American heroes through chapters on our national sanctuaries, monuments, and memorials.

Mr. Coleman states: "The richest sources of our heritage are to be found in our shrines and monuments and memorials which Americans are visiting in ever-increasing numbers. All across the nation, these historic landmarks are being snatched from oblivion and restored to their former glory—projects of lasting significance and service. . . . This wistful turning back is something more than sentiment; what we cherish are symbols of hardship and heroism, of devotion and dedication; signposts of progress, milestones of achievement, reminders of an ennobling past. . . ."

"A Guide to the Care of Antique Firearms." Harold L. Peterson. *The American Rifleman*. Washington, D. C.: The National Rifle Association of America. 5 pp.

"All firearms collectors have one problem in common," says Mr. Peterson, which is "how best to clean and preserve their prized possession. Not only do cleaning and preservative treatment enhance the esthetic appearance of a firearm, but they also protect the monetary investment which a gun represents. When properly carried out, they can even considerably increase a piece's economic value."

Other collectors can heed and profit from Mr. Peterson's guide, for a collection of firearms involves many materials. He discusses the cleaning, restoration, and preservation of iron, brass, German silver, pewter, silver, and gold. Powder-post beetles threaten wooden gunstocks; leather appurtenances must be checked for dryness. Excavated relics are usually so badly corroded that there is no possibility of restoring them to good condition, but they can be cleaned and preserved. In all instances, the reader is advised to proceed slowly and cautiously until thoroughly familiar with the techniques and materials used.

The author is a historian with the National Park Service, has a large private collection of arms and armor, is the author of six books on weapons, and is advisor on military matters to Colonial Williamsburg and Plimoth Plantation. In 1957 he served on the faculty of the Historic House Keeping seminar at Cooperstown, N. Y.

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